

# Application of the National Environmental Public Health Tracking Program's Bill Writer's "Tool Kit"

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# Legislation & Partner Agreements Workgroup

Formed at February 2003 Kickoff Meeting

## Mission

- Review existing and proposed legislation
- Develop ideal model for state legislation
- Develop Trading Partner Agreements/MOUs

# Dilemma

**Model Legislation  
or**

**Model Concepts for Legislation  
?????**

# Solution

## A Bill Writer's "Tool Kit"

### Purpose

To provide model concepts essential to environmental public health tracking legislation

# A BILL WRITER'S "TOOL KIT"

EPHT Legislation & Partner Agreements Workgroup & Program Marketing Workgroup

COLLABORATIVE EFFORT

Version February 2004

## Purpose of this *Tool Kit*:

To provide you with model concepts essential to environmental public health tracking legislation.

## What's Inside?

### 1. Information that will help you:

- a. Understand the history behind the tracking initiative and whom it will help.
- b. Describe the *need* for environmental public health tracking at the national and *state* level.

## What is the Environmental Public Health Tracking Program?

The National Environmental Public Health Tracking Program (EPHT) is a CDC-led initiative, where scientists and public health officials at the federal, state and local levels are working together to design and implement a nationwide data network that integrates, for the first time, environmental monitoring data and public health data systems.

The EPHT Program has 5 major goals:

- 1) Build a sustainable national environmental public health tracking network,
- 2) Increase environmental public health capacity (nationally and at the state/local level),

# Contents

- What is EPHT?
- Background
- Who will it help?
- Why legislation is needed at the state level
- Barriers you may encounter
- Legislative history to date
- Key terms and definitions
- Scenario examples showing value of EPHT

# Zounds: Even More Help!

Program Marketing Workgroup  
Message Mapping Subgroup

- Developing messages for different audiences
- Developing messages for different roles
- Web accessible library (eventually)

**Enter: Illinois**



# Opportunity for Application

- Spring 2003: EPHT was asked to submit legislative proposal concepts
- Sent a (draft) copy of Bill Writer's "Tool Kit" with supporting letters from state partners
- October 2003: EPHT was asked to submit legislative proposal for 2004 session

# Illinois Health & Hazardous Substances Registry Act (1984)

- “...purpose...to establish a unified Statewide project to collect, compile, and correlate information on public health and hazardous substances.”
- “...in such a manner as to allow for geographical correlation of the data...”
- “...shall be compatible with other national models....”

# Proposed Amendment

Expand the categories of information compiled in the Registry

1. Environmental Hazards
2. Environmental Exposures
3. Environmentally Related Diseases
4. Health Effects Potentially Related to Environmental Hazards & Exposures

# The Result

**BOO!**



**HISS!**

# But...The Advantages of the Tool Kit are:

- Ready to use at a moment's notice
- Big enough to be useful
- Small enough to be practical
- Both technical and simple definitions
- Examples of current state legislation
- FREE!

# Workgroup Members

- Amanda Sue Niskar
- Claudio Rivera
- Diane Matuszak
- Ed Foster
- Frances M. Dwyer
- Geoff Lomax
- Jason Sapsin
- Lloyd Evans
- Lorena Barck
- LuAnn White
- Roger Gibson
- Roy Petre
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